

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A module for dispensing a treat to a chewing animal comprising ~~a hollow treat holder having~~

(A) a rubbery hollow treat holder having at least one partly barred aperture through which a treat can be inserted by a person or removed by a chewing animal;
and

(B) at least one open end that can be removably attached to an open end of another of said modules; and

(C) a treat barrier having inwardly-directed prongs that partly bar said open end, whereby a treat can be inserted into said hollow treat holder by a person or can be removed from said hollow treat holder by a chewing animal through said aperture or through said open end.

2. (Original) A module according to Claim 1 wherein said aperture is star shaped.

3. (Currently amended) A module according to Claim 1 wherein said treat holder has at least two of said apertures.

4. (Currently amended) A module according to Claim 1 wherein said open end is circular in cross-section.

5. (Currently amended) A module according to Claim 1 wherein said treat holder has two open ends.

6. (Original) A module according to Claim 5 wherein one of said two ends is a male end and the other of said two ends is a female end and said male end locks into said female end.
7. (Currently amended) A module according to Claim 1 wherein ~~a treat may be inserted by a person or removed by a chewing animal through said at least one end~~ said inwardly-directed prongs are elastomeric.
8. (Original) A module according to Claim 7 including a recessed treat barrier at each end.
9. (Currently amended) A module according to Claim 8 16 wherein ~~said recessed treat barrier has inwardly extending prongs~~ one of said two ends is a male end and the other of said two ends is a female end and said male end locks into said female end.
10. (Original) A module according to Claim 1 wherein said hollow treat holder has a shape selected from the group consisting of straight, triangular, U-shaped, spheroidal, cubic, and L-shaped.
11. (Currently amended) A module according to Claim 4 16 wherein ~~said hollow treat holder is made of a rubbery material~~ including a recessed treat barrier at each end.
12. (Original) A module according to Claim 1 including a dog biscuit inside said hollow treat holder.

13. (Original) A module according to Claim 1 wherein said at least one end is circular and about 1 to about 5 inches in diameter.

14. (Original) A treat-dispensing toy for pets comprising a multiplicity of modules according to Claim 1 removably attached to each other.

15. (Original) A method of entertaining and feeding a chewing animal comprising inserting a treat into a module according to Claim 1 and permitting said chewing animal to chew on said module.

16. (Currently amended) A module for dispensing a treat to a chewing animal comprising

(A) a rubbery hollow treat holder having at least one star-shaped aperture through which a treat may be inserted by a person or removed by a chewing animal; and

(B) two end pieces fixed to said hollow treat holder;

(C) a treat barrier having elastomeric inwardly-directed prongs that partly bars said open end, where said end pieces can be removably attached to an end piece of another of said modules and through which a treat can be inserted into said hollow treat holder by a person and can be removed from said hollow treat holder by a chewing animal.

17. (Original) A module according to Claim 16 wherein a barrier is in between said end pieces and said hollow treat holder.

18. (Original) A treat-dispensing toy for pets comprising a multiplicity of modules according to Claim 16 removeably attached to each other.

19. (Original) A module for dispensing a treat to a chewing animal comprising

(A) a rubbery hollow treat holder having two star-shaped apertures through which a treat may be inserted by a person or removed by a chewing animal; and

(B) a male end piece and a female end piece fixed to said hollow treat holder, where said male end piece can be removably attached to the female end piece of another of said modules; and

(C) a treat barrier having inwardly-directed prongs in between each end piece and said hollow treat holder, whereby a treat can be inserted into said hollow treat holder by a person or can be removed from said hollow treat holder by a chewing animal through said aperture or through either of said end pieces.

20. (Original) A treat-dispensing toy for pets comprising a multiplicity of modules according to Claim 19 removably attached to each other.